



# Department of Justice

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Southern District of Ohio

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## **FORMER MOVING COMPANY BOOKKEEPER INDICTED FOR TAX CRIMES**

### ***Withheld money from company employees and kept it***

DAYTON – A federal grand jury here has indicted John D. Bray, age 48, formerly of Dayton but whose whereabouts are now unknown, charging him in a 24-count indictment with tax evasion and willful failure to account for and turn over hundreds of thousands of dollars withheld from employees of local moving companies between 2001 and 2004. The indictment alleges that he withheld money from employees of the moving companies he worked for and spent it on personal expenses instead of paying it over to the Internal Revenue Service.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and Jose Gonzalez, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, announced the indictment returned yesterday.

The indictment alleges that Bray withheld money from the paychecks of the moving companies' employees and deposited the money into an account he created for his own use rather than paying the money to the IRS. The indictment alleges that between 2001 and 2006 Bray issued approximately \$650,000 worth of checks from the account he created for his own personal use that included supporting a restaurant he established.

Bray also served as a minister at a Trotwood church.

The indictment charges Bray with three counts of tax evasion and 21 counts of willful failure to account for and pay over income taxes. Each count is punishable by up to five years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000 and three years of supervised release.

Lockhart commended the IRS agents who investigated the case along with Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Clemmens and Department of Justice Tax Division Trial Attorney Jill Cassara, who is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely an accusation. All defendants are presumed innocent until and unless convicted in court.

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